

THE PRICE OF PANDERING WITH  
TAX CUTS

(Mr. MEEHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, the Republican tax plan is not about helping out struggling families. It is about pandering with promises that will destroy our economy if they are kept.

Call me cynical, but I do not think Republicans want to give tax credits for children because they believe in family values but because people with kids are likely to vote.

Republicans do not want to let large corporations avoid paying taxes because they think it will boost productivity, but because the people who run those companies are big givers to Republican campaigns.

Do not be fooled, America. The price of this pandering will be paid by ordinary working families, the very people Republicans claim to be trying to help.

Cutting student loans to pay for tax cuts now will make it harder to send their kids to college. Opening tax loopholes for the wealthy and corporations will smother the economy with debt, eroding the living standards of the middle class.

Let us cut wasteful spending and balance the budget. But until then, the pandering on tax cuts has got to stop.

□ 1145

## NEEDED TAX RELIEF

(Mrs. SEASTRAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

(Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, tax relief for middle-class families is long overdue. President Clinton promised middle-class tax cuts, but he walked away from his promise. He promised deficit reduction, and this year he walked away from that promise. This new Congress promised both deficit reduction and tax cuts for the middle class, and unlike the previous 40 years of one-party rule, we are keeping our promise of tax relief for families.

Our bill will help families by providing them with a \$500 per child tax credit targeted to the middle class. It will help families pay for college tuition by expanding penalty-free IRA withdrawals, and it will help our senior citizens by restoring the cuts in Social Security that were passed by the Clinton Democrats.

Members on both sides of the aisle can either stand on the sidelines as we make tough votes, or they can join us as we work to ultimately balance the budget, provide tax relief to create jobs, help families, and provide a better future for our children and grandchildren by protecting the American dream.

THIS TAX BILL IS A CRUEL  
DREAM MACHINE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the Republican contract calls parts of today's tax bill the American dream. Well, I, too, have an American dream. My dream is that we pay off the debts of this century and not pass on \$4.7 trillion of debt to the next generation. This Republican bill will cost our taxpayers up to \$700 billion over the next 10 years. Under the Republican bill it is absolutely wrong that households earning \$200,000 would receive an average tax cut of over \$11,000 while those under \$30,000 receive a hundred bucks. In fact, working families with two children with incomes of up to \$16,000 would not get anything, while those with adjusted gross incomes of up to \$250,000 would receive a \$500 per child tax credit.

This bill is a cruel dream machine. To make matters worse, huge corporations would no longer pay even the minimum tax. Vote for what is right. Do not wait for the next election. Vote "no" on this Republican bill.

LET US PASS THIS TAX BILL  
TODAY

(Mr. WHITE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WHITE. Mr. Speaker, a week or two ago I made a very difficult decision. There is nobody in this House who wants to cut taxes more than I do. But I decided that I would not vote for the tax cuts that we are going to consider today unless I was sure we had the spending cuts to go along with them. I did not want to make the deficit worse, and, as I explained when I sat down and talked to leadership about this, I do not think we should go on a diet, or I do not think we should eat our dessert before we go on a diet. We have got a lot of hard work to do this summer to get the spending cuts under control. Then it would be time to pass the tax cuts.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to say that the bill we are going to consider today does exactly that. The tax cuts under this bill do not take effect unless we have done our job this summer with the Senate to enact laws that will balance the budget. The great genius of this, Mr. Speaker, is that, when every special interest group comes to see us this summer asking us to save their particular program, the American people will know that, if we do our job and they help us do our job, we will be able to cut their tax.

That is what we should do. Let us pass this bill today.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAYING  
FOR REPUBLICAN TAX CUTS

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, this is the Contract With America. This is a Contract With America, and I have looked at the fine print, and it does not say we are going to increase the taxes on 2 million people. It does not have a provision which says that on 2,000,000 of our employees' families you are going to have to tax increase. It does not say to those that are working for the Federal Government and our employees in this House, "If you make \$20,000, you're going to have a \$500 tax increase; if you make 30, you're going to have a \$750 increase; if you make 40, a thousand dollar increase, and if you make 50, a \$1,250 tax increase so we can give a tax cut for the wealthiest of America."

"Now STENY HOYER has a lot of Federal employees." My colleagues are saying, "This is a tax increase; we don't believe it."

Let me quote GERALD SOLOMON, chairman of the Committee on Rules: "I have to agree with you that this is a case where we are raising taxes on some to pay for tax cuts for others," and that to me says Chairman SOLOMON is wrong.

THE TIME IS RIGHT FOR A  
DEBATE ON TAXES

(Mr. ROTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, yes, this is preeminently the time for us to debate taxes. The people in America are filling out their tax returns, and they are darned mad and they are not going to take it anymore.

Some here in Congress wonder why the American people are so upset. Well, let me give an example:

Here is a letter from a constituent of mine, a man I represent back home in Wisconsin, who points out that the FBI Director on Tuesday pointed out that \$44 billion—let me repeat that—\$44 billion of our national health costs go to fraud.

Now, no wonder the American people are upset. People are sick and tired of all the waste, fraud, and abuse.

Yes, we need tax breaks because maybe the less money we give to the Federal Government, just maybe, it will be less that will be wasted.

THE CIRCUS IS UNDER THE  
CAPITOL DOME

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the circus is in the District of Columbia today, and it is actually outside these doors of the Capitol. So we